

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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(330) NIGHT LEAD SMITH

WASHINGTON, AUG. 10 (AP)-THE DEATH OF GEN. WALTER BEDELL SMITH, AN EXTRAORDINARY SOLDIER-STATESMAN, DREW EXPRESSION OF GREAT REGRET FROM PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND OTHER TOP OFFICIALS TODAY.

THE PRESIDENT CALLED SMITH "A MAN WHO DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY IN MANY DISTINGUISHED CAPACITIES."

SMITH, WHO HELD A TOP PLANNING ROLE IN WORLD WAR II, SERVED AS HEAD OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND AS UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE, DIED LAST NIGHT AS AN AMBULANCE WAS RUSHING HIM TO WALTER REED ARMY HOSPITAL.

THE 65-YEAR-OLD GENERAL HAD SUFFERED A HEART ATTACK AT HIS HOME HERE.

FORMER PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, WHO HAD ONCE DESCRIBED SMITH AS "THE GENERAL MANAGER" OF WORLD WAR II, LAMENTED AT THE LOSS OF "MY INTIMATE AND VALUED FRIEND."

AT GETTYSBURG, PA., EISENHOWER ISSUED A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE TERMED SMITH "ONE OF THE ABLEST MEN I HAVE KNOWN."

EISENHOWER RECALLED THAT SMITH HAD SERVED AS HIS WARTIME CHIEF OF STAFF IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND EUROPEAN THEATERS AND "EARNED THE ADMIRATION AND RESPECT OF HIS ASSOCIATES AND GLOWING OFFICIAL TRIBUTES FROM ALLIED GOVERNMENTS HE SERVED."

AT THE CIA, WHERE SMITH HAD SERVED AS DIRECTOR UNDER PRESIDENT HARRY TRUMAN, FLAGS WERE FLOWN AT HALF STAFF TODAY IN HIS MEMORY.

AND THE PRESENT CIA CHIEF, ALLEN DULLES, SENT SMITH'S WIDOW A LETTER OF SYMPATHY IN WHICH HE DESCRIBED HER HUSBAND AS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S "GREAT SOLDIER-STATESMEN AND OUTSTANDING INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS."

CONGRESS NOTED WITH SADNESS, TOO, THE PASSING OF A MAN WHO HAD SERVED HIS GOVERNMENT IN A VARIETY OF POSTS FOR 43 YEARS.

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD, D-MONT., SAID SMITH HAD BEEN "ONE OF THE NATION'S GREAT SOLDIERS IN WORLD WAR II AND ALSO ONE OF THE GREAT DIPLOMATS OF OUR TIME."

THE MILITARY, TO WHICH SMITH DEVOTED MOST OF HIS LIFE, PREPARED ITS FINAL TRIBUTE. CATHOLIC FUNERAL SERVICES, WITH FULL MILITARY HONORS, WERE SCHEDULED FOR 11 A.M. (EDT) MONDAY IN THE CHAPEL AT NEARBY FT. MYER, VA. THE MAN WHO ROSE THROUGH THE RANKS FROM A PRIVATE IN THE INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD TO FULL GENERAL AND WON FOUR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDALS, WILL BE BURIED IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY.

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